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ABSTRACT

This teaching guide contains the Discovery Curriculum which was extensively field tested at The National Arbor Day Foundation's Discovery Camp. The Discovery Curriculum is designed to promote wise environmental stewardship through relevant, active learning opportunities. Goals for each participant include: (1) be aware of and able to cite examples of the interdependence of living things; (2) have knowledge of and be able to describe an environment as the sum of its abiotic and biotic components; and (3) be able to identify wise environmental stewardship opportunities and exhibit the skills and commitment necessary to engage in them. Each of three units contains narrative on teaching methods and activities that cover unit topics. Unit topics include plant mechanics, food webs, habitat, biological adaptations, biomagnification, environment, ecosystems, organism classification, population, community, value-based decision making, issue investigation and resolution, and the importance of individual action. Throughout the units, teachers are referred to a resources section that contains worksheets and experiment observation sheets. Other sections contain examples of how to begin lessons or how to discuss topics, and suggested questions and worksheets for supplemental individual or small group investigations. Contains 127 references. (LZ)

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